May 10, 2006

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‘Transition to Agriculture in Northern China’ Title of May 17 Talk at Cal Poly

San Luis Obispo – UC Davis anthropology Professor Robert Bettinger will give a presentation on the “Transition to Agriculture in Northern China,” Wednesday, May 17, as part of California’s Archaeology month.

Bettinger will speak at 8:10 p.m. in the Business Building Rotunda (Room 213). His presentation will focus on the invention of agriculture in northern China about 10,000 years ago, when hunter-gatherers first began cultivating millet. Northern China is one of about 10 places in the world where agriculture was independently invented, but it is the least understood and most problematic. Bettinger’s research suggests that the shift to crop cultivation was at least partially related to rapid climate change at the end of the Pleistocene -- some 11,550 years ago.

The presentation is sponsored by Cal Poly’s Social Sciences Department and College of Liberal Arts. It is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Professor Terry Jones at 756-2523.

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